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VERIFICATION BY REMOTE SENSING OF AN OIL SLICK MOVEMENT PREDICTION MODEL

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Report on Significant Results
NASA LANDSAT CONTRACT NAS5-20983
UN 20570

Prepared for
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SIGNIFICANT RESULTS

LANDSAT, aircraft, ships and air-dropped current drogues have been deployed to determine current circulation and to track oil slick movement on four different dates in Delaware Bay. The results were used to verify a predictive model for oil slick movement and dispersion. The model predicts the behavior of oil slicks given their size, location, tidal stage (current), weather (wind) and nature of crude. Both LANDSAT satellites provided valuable data on gross circulation patterns and convergent coastal fronts which by capturing oil slicks significantly influence their movement and dispersion.